

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the EFS to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

On 5-21-07
By Angela Loding
Angela Loding

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: S-09-5

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: David C. Hovda et al.

Application No.: 10/799,491

Filing Date: March 12, 2004

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR
TREATING INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS

Examiner: Lee S. Cohen

Art Unit: 3739

Confirmation No.: 8367

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER
37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the references that are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.

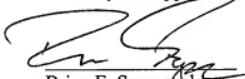
It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue there from.

These citations do not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims.

This IDS is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), therefore Applicants believe no fees are due; however the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees necessary or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0359 of ArthroCare Corporation in order to effectuate this filing.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicants' attorney at 512.391.3961.

Respectfully submitted
Attorney for Applicants,



Brian E. Szymczak
Reg. No. 47,120

5/27/2007
Date

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:
ARTHROCARE CORPORATION
CUSTOMER NO. **21394**
512.391.3961
512.391.3901 (fax)

PTO-1449		Application No. 10/799,491	Applicant(s) David C. Hovda et al.		
Information Disclosure Citation in an Application		Docket Number S-09-5	Group Art Unit 3739	Filing Date March 12, 2004	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
A.	5374265	12/20/1994	Sand	606	5	8/6/1992
B.	5571189	11/5/1996	Kuslich	623	17.12	5/20/1994
C.	5877289	3/2/1999	Thorpe et al.	530	387.7	6/7/1995
D.	6146380	11/14/2000	Racz et al.	606	41	1/9/1998
E.	6176857	1/23/2001	Ashley	606	32	9/22/1998
F.	6277112	8/21/2001	Underwood et al.	606	32	2/20/1998
G.	6283961	9/4/2001	Underwood et al.	606	41	6/3/1999
H.	6679886	1/20/2004	Weikel et al.	606	79	8/28/2001
I.	6746451	6/8/2004	Middleton et al.	606	79	6/1/2001
J.	7108696	9/19/2006	Daniel et al.	606	41	9/22/2003
L.	3,633,425	01/11/72	Sanford	73	356	01/02/70
L.	4,474,179	10/02/84	Koch	606	40	05/13/82
M.	4,658,817	04/21/87	Hardy	606	40	04/01/85
N.	4,907,589	03/13/90	Cosman	606	34	04/29/88
O.	5,156,151	10/20/92	Imran	600	375	02/15/91
•	5,261,410	11/16/93	Alfano et al.	600	475	02/17/94
O.	5,336,443	08/09/94	Eggers	252	511	02/22/93
•	5,374,261	12/20/94	Yoon	604	385.01	10/23/90
S.	5,380,316	01/10/95	Aita	606	7	06/16/93
T.	5,389,096	02/14/95	Aita	606	40	02/25/93
U.	5,400,267	03/21/95	Denen et al.	702	59	12/08/92
V.	5,437,662	08/01/95	Nardella	606	40	02/17/94
W.	5,554,152	09/10/96	Aita	606	7	12/20/94
X.	5,836,875	11/17/98	Webster, Jr.	600	374	10/04/96
Y.	5,860,951	01/19/99	Eggers	604	510	11/22/96
Z.	5,860,974	01/19/99	Abele	606	41	02/11/97
AA.	5,891,134	04/06/99	Goble et al.	606	27	09/24/96
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED		

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

PTO-1449		Application No. 10/799,491	Applicant(s) David C. Hovda et al.	
Information Disclosure Citation in an Application		Docket Number S-09-5	Group Art Unit 3739	Filing Date March 12, 2004

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
A.	6,047,700	04/11/00	Eggers et al.	128	898	05/22/98
B.	6,105,581	08/22/00	Eggers et al.	128	898	11/14/97
C.	6,174,309	01/16/01	Wrublewski et al.	606	45	02/11/99
D.	6,228,078	05/08/01	Eggers	606	32	11/25/97
E.	6,234,178	05/08/01	Eggers	606	32	11/25/97
F.	6,237,604	05/29/01	Burnside et al.	128	897	09/07/99
G.	6,270,460	08/07/01	McCartan et al.	600	459	06/24/99
H.	6,280,441	08/28/01	Ryan	606	45	12/15/97
I.	6,308,089	10/23/01	von der Rur et al.	600	338	04/14/99
J.	6,309,387	10/30/01	Eggers et al.	606	41	05/18/99
K.	6,364,877	04/02/02	Goble et al.	606	34	10/16/98
L.	6,416,508	07/09/02	Eggers et al.	606	32	02/15/00
M.	6,578,579	06/17/03	Burnside	128	897	05/07/01
N.	6,749,604	06/15/04	Eggers et al.	606	41	03/30/00
O.	6,770,071	8/3/2004	Woloszko et al.	606	41	2/9/2001
P.	6,837,887	1/4/2005	Woloszko et al.	606	41	1/25/2002
Q.	6,837,888	1/4/2005	Ciarrocca et al.	606	41	2/25/2002
R.	7,041,102	05/09/06	Truckai et al.	606	51	05/22/03
S.	7,169,143	01/30/07	Eggers et al.	606	32	10/20/05
T.	7,186,234	03/06/07	Dahla et al.	604	22	02/05/02
U.	RE33,925	05/12/92	Bales et al.	606	48	12/08/88
V.	2002/0095151	07/18/02	Dahla et al.	606	41	02/05/02
W.	2003/0088245	05/08/03	Woloszko et al.	606	041	11/04/02
X.	2002/0120259	08/29/02	Lettice et al.	606	032	12/20/00
Y.	2003/0013986	01/16/03	Saadat	600	549	07/12/01
Z.	2003/0028189	02/06/02	Woloszko et al.	604	045	06/27/02
AA.	2003/0158545	08/21/03	Hovda et al.	606	032	02/25/03

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

PTO-1449 Information Disclosure Citation in an Application			Application No. 10/799,491	Applicant(s) David C. Hovda et al.		
			Docket Number S-09-5	Group Art Unit 3739	Filing Date March 12, 2004	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
A.	2003/0171743	09/11/03	Tasto et al.	606	032	02/21/03
B.	2003/0208194	11/06/03	Hovda et al.	606	041	09/26/01
C.	2003/0208196	11/06/03	Stone	606	041	05/03/02
D.	2003/0212395	11/13/03	Woloszko et al.	606	032	03/05/03
E.	2003/0212396	11/13/03	Eggers et al.	606	041	03/14/03
F.	2003/0212396	11/13/03	Eggers	606	041	03/13/03
G.	2003/0216726	11/20/03	Eggers et al.	604	041	03/20/03
H.	2004/0024399	02/05/04	Sharps et al.	606	032	07/08/03
I.	2004/0049180	03/11/04	Sharps et al.	606	032	05/13/03
J.	2004/0054366	03/18/04	Davison et al.	606	045	09/12/03
K.	2004/0127893	07/01/04	Hovda	606	041	12/11/03
L.	2004/0153057	08/05/04	Davison	600	410	11/13/03
M.	2004/0186469	09/23/04	Woloszko et al.	606	041	02/05/04
N.	2004/0230190	11/18/04	Dahla et al.	604	041	03/12/04
O.	2005/0004634	01/06/05	Hovda et al.	606	041	07/29/04
P.	2005/0010205	01/13/05	Hovda et al.	606	032	03/12/04
Q.	2005/0119650	06/02/05	Sanders et al.	424	426	10/20/04
R.	2005/0131402	06/16/05	Ciarrocca et al.	606	450	01/03/05
S.	2005/0187543	08/28/05	Underwood et al.	606	041	04/25/02
T.	2005/0234439	10/20/05	Underwood et al.	606	032	03/25/05
U.	2005/0251134	11/10/05	Woloszko et al.	606	032	05/09/05
V.	2005/0261754	11/24/05	Woloszko et al.	606	032	04/12/05
W.	2005/0288665	12/29/05	Woloszko et al.	606	041	06/24/05
X.	2006/0036237	02/16/05	Davison et al.	606	041	06/03/05
Y.	2006/0095026	05/04/06	Hovda et al.	606	032	09/19/05
Z.	2006/0095031	05/04/06	Ormsby, T.	606	034	09/22/05
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED		
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.						

PTO-1449		Application No. 10/799,491	Applicant(s) David C. Hovda et al.			
Information Disclosure Citation in an Application		Docket Number S-09-5	Group Art Unit 3739	Filing Date March 12, 2004		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
A.	2006/0129145	06/15/06	Ormsby et al.	606	041	10/11/05
B.	2006/0178670	08/10/06	Woloszko et al.	606	048	01/17/06
C.	2006/0189971	08/24/06	Eggers et al.	606	032	11/23/05
D.	2006/0253117	11/09/06	Hovda et al.	128	898	03/09/06
E.	2006/0259025	11/16/06	Dahla	607	108	05/16/05
F.	2007/001088	01/11/07	Dahla	606	041	07/06/05
G.	2007/0010809	01/11/07	Sanders et al.	606	032	08/02/06
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
H.	05/000434	12/20/06	NL	--	--	X
I.	02/36028	5/10/02	WO	A61B	18/12	X
J.	05/125287	12/29/05	WO	A61B	18/00	X
NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)					DATE
K.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Investigation on the Interaction Plasma-Bone Tissue", E-MRS Spring Meeting, 1 pg					06/18-21/2002
L.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Biomedical Applications of Plasmas", Tutorial presented prior to the 55 th Gaseous Electronics Conference in Minneapolis, MN, 41 pgs					10/14/02
M.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Plasma Interactions with Living Cells", Eindhoven University of Technology, 1 pg					2002
N.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Superficial Treatment of Mammalian Cells using Plasma Needle", J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys. 26, pp. 2908-2913					11/19/03
O.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Plasma Needle", Eindhoven University of Technology, 1 pg					11/28/03
P.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Plasma Physicists Move into Medicine", Physicsweb, 1 pg					11/2003
Q.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Plasma Treated Tissue Engineered Skin to Study Skin Damage", Biomechanics and Tissue Engineering, Materials Technology, 1 pg					2003
R.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Plasma Treatment of Dental Cavities: A Feasibility Study", IEEE Transaction on Plasma Science, Vol. 32, No. 4, pp. 1540-1542					08/2004
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED			
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.						

PTO-1449	Application No. 10/799,491	Applicant(s) David C. Hovda et al.
Information Disclosure Citation In an Application	Docket Number S-09-5	Group Art Unit 3739
		Filing Date March 12, 2004

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)	DATE
A.	Stoffels, E. et al., "The Effects of UV Irradiation and Gas Plasma Treatment on Living Mammalian Cells and Bacteria: A Comparative Approach", IEEE Transaction on Plasma Science, Vol. 32, No. 4, pp. 1544-1550	08/2004
B.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Electrical and Optical Characterization of the Plasma Needle", New Journal of Physics 6, pp. 1-14	10/28/04
C.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Where Plasma Meets Plasma", Eindhoven University of Technology, 23 pgs	2004
D.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Gas Plasma effects on Living Cells", Physica Scripta, T107, pp. 79-82	2004
E.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Plasma Treatment of Mammalian Vascular Cells: A Quantitative Description", IEEE Transaction on Plasma Science, Vol. 33, No. 2, pp. 771-775	04/2005
F.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Deactivation of Escherichia Coli by the Plasma Needle", J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys. 38, pp. 1716-1721	05/20/05
G.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Development of a Gas Plasma Catheter for Gas Plasma Surgery", XXVIIth ICPIG, Endoven University of Technology, pp. 18-22	07/2005
H.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Development of a Smart Positioning Sensor for the Plasma Needle", Plasma Sources Sci. Technol. 15, pp. 582-589	06/27/06
G.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Killing of S. Mutans Bacteria Using a Plasma Needle at Atmospheric Pressure, IEEE Transaction on Plasma Science, Vol. 34, No. 4, pp. 1317-1324	08/2006
J.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Plasma-Needle Treatment of Substrates with Respect to Wettability and Growth of Escherichia Coli and Streptococcus Mutans", IEEE Transaction on Plasma Science, Vol. 34, No. 4, pp. 1325-1330	08/2006
K.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Reattachment and Apoptosis after Plasma-Needle Treatment of Cultured Cells", IEEE Transaction on Plasma Science, Vol. 34, No. 4, pp. 1331-1336	08/2006
L.	Stoffels, E. et al., "UV Excimer Lamp Irradiation of Fibroblasts: The Influence on Antioxidant Homostasis", IEEE Transaction on Plasma Science, Vol. 34, No. 4, pp. 1359-1364	08/2006
M.	Stoffels, E. et al., "Plasma Needle for In Vivo Medical Treatment: Recent Developments and Perspectives", Plasma Sources Sci. Technol. 15, pp. S169-S180	10/06/06
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED	
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.		